

August 28, 2019 Contact: Sean M. Peoples Public Affairs Officer 860.989.4292



Retired U.S. Navy pilot, Dean J. Wojcik, was recently sworn in as a member of the East Hartford, CT Flotilla of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, a part of the Auxiliary's New London Division. Mr. Wojcik, a Salem, CT resident, was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy in 2009 as a naval aviator with a rank of Lieutenant Commander.

After receiving a Navy Reserve Officer Training Corp (NROTC) scholarship to attend the College of the Holy Cross, Mr. Wojcik was commissioned in 1988 as an officer and selected for flight training in Pensacola, FL. He graduated from flight school in 1990 as a fixed wing and rotary wing pilot and subsequently served eight years as an Aircraft Commander. During the course of his naval career, Mr. Wojcik served among others, at the following commands: Admirals staff, Commander Naval Base Jacksonville FL, and National Strategic Command at Fort MacNair Washington DC as a senior analyst developing Anti-Terrorism/Force protection policies and exercises. Mr. Wojcik joined the Naval Reserves in 2001 and received a Presidential Recall back to active duty. He was assigned to the U.S. European Headquarters 4-

Star Command in Germany in support of U.S. operations in Central Asia and the Middle East. After returning home, he received a master's degree in Homeland Security Leadership from the University of Connecticut. Mr. Wojcik currently works as a State of Connecticut Conservation Officer where he enforces all state boating, fishing and hunting laws and regulations.

Mr. Wojcik is seeking to start an Auxiliary aviation detachment (AUXAIR) at the East Hartford Flotilla. AUXAIR is a highly professional and integral part of the Coast Guard search and rescue team and its homeland security forces. As such, it participates in many Coast Guard missions including search and rescue operations, marine safety, pollution response, logistic transport missions, aids to navigation, ice reconnaissance and providing security for ports, waterways and coasts. The area of responsibility for the New London Division is from the Connecticut River, east to Rhode Island and from the Massachusetts border to Long Island Sound.

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary has served as the civilian, uniformed volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard for 80 years. The 26,000 volunteer members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary donate millions of hours in support of Coast Guard missions, such as search and rescue, public education and maritime domain awareness. The primary mission of the Auxiliary is recreational boating safety. To that end, the Auxiliary offers public education courses, conducts vessel safety checks and augments the mission of active-duty personnel at Coast Guard Station New London.

###